

Chambers of Magistrate Judge Malachy E. Mannion

Max Rosen U.S. Courthouse, 197 South Main Street, Suite 161,
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701
Tel: (570) 831-2570 Fax: (570) 821-4009

Malachy E. Mannion
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1953
Education: Scranton 1976 BS; Pace 1979 JD
Began Service: January 4, 2001
Term Expires: January 3, 2017

Academic: Lecturer, United States Department of Justice Attorney General's Advocacy Institute; Lecturer, Pennsylvania Bar Institute; Lecturer, Federal Bar Association

Government: Assistant District Attorney, Office of the District Attorney, County of Nassau, New York (1980-1986); Assistant United States Attorney, Middle District of Pennsylvania, United States Department of Justice, Ronald Reagan Administration (1986-1993); Assistant United States Attorney, Middle District of Pennsylvania, United States Department of Justice, William J. Clinton Administration (1997-2001)

Legal Practice: Partner, Hourigan, Kluger, Spohrer & Quinn, P.C. (1993-1997)

Current Memberships: Federal Bar Association; Lackawanna Bar Association; Pennsylvania Bar Association

Staff

Law Clerk **Seth B. Tillman** (570) 831-2570
Began Service: September 2008
Term Expires: September 2009
Education: Harvard 2000 JD
Career Law Clerk **Krista Ammenhauser** (570) 831-2570
Began Service: 2001
E-mail: krista_ammenhauser@pamd.uscourts.gov
Education: Scranton 1992; Widener 1996 JD
Courtroom Deputy **Barbe Sempa** (570) 831-2570
E-mail: barbe_sempa@pamd.uscourts.gov

United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

274 Max Rosenn U.S. Courthouse, 197 South Main Street,
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701
Tel: (570) 831-2500 Fax: (570) 829-0249
Internet: www.pamb.uscourts.gov

Number of Judgeships: 2

Court Staff

Clerk **Terrance S. Miller** (717) 901-2800
P.O. Box 908, Harrisburg, PA 17108
E-mail: terrance_miller@pamb.uscourts.gov
Chief Deputy Clerk **Ellen Linskey** (570) 826-6450

Chambers of Chief Bankruptcy Judge John J. Thomas

Max Rosenn U.S. Courthouse, 197 South Main Street, Suite 150,
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701
Tel: (570) 831-2531 Fax: (570) 829-3602
E-mail: chambers_of_judge_john_thomas@pamb.uscourts.gov

John J. Thomas

Chief Bankruptcy Judge

Date of Birth: 1948
Education: Dickinson 1972 JD
Began Service: January 10, 1992
Term Expires: January 10, 2020

Academic: Adjunct Professor, The Pennsylvania State University (1987-1992)

Chambers of Chief Bankruptcy Judge John J. Thomas continued

Government: Public Defender, Office of the Public Defender, County of Luzerne, Pennsylvania (1974-1985); First Assistant Public Defender, Office of the Public Defender, County of Luzerne, Pennsylvania (1984-1985)

Current Memberships: Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association; National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges; Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association

Staff

Career Law Clerk **Richard P. Rogers** (570) 831-2531
Education: Temple 1983 JD
Judicial Assistant **Catherine M. Sisk** (570) 831-2531

Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge Mary D. France

P.O. Box 1263, Harrisburg, PA 17108
Tel: (717) 901-2845

Mary D. France

Bankruptcy Judge

Began Service: March 3, 2003

Staff

Law Clerk **Melanie Sonnenborn** (717) 901-2845
Began Service: 2009
E-mail: melanie_sonnenborn@pamb.uscourts.gov
Career Law Clerk **John D. Kelly** (717) 901-2846
E-mail: john_kelly@pamb.uscourts.gov

Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge Robert N. Opel

274 Max Rosenn U.S. Courthouse, 197 South Main Street,
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701
Tel: (570) 826-6450

Robert N. Opel

Bankruptcy Judge

Began Service: September 2006

Term Expires: September 2020

United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Tel: (412) 208-7500 Tel: (412) 644-6374 (PACER)
Fax: (412) 208-7530
Internet: www.pawd.uscourts.gov

Number of Judgeships: 10

Number of Vacancies: 1

Areas Covered: Counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington and Westmoreland

Court Staff

Clerk of the Court **Robert V. Barth** (412) 208-7500
E-mail: robert_barth@pawd.uscourts.gov
Chief Deputy **Colleen Willison** (412) 208-7518
Deputy-in-Charge - Erie **Susan Parmeter** (814) 464-9600
P.O. Box 1820, Erie, PA 16507 Fax: (814) 464-9607
17 South Park Row, Erie, PA 16501
Deputy-in-Charge - Johnstown **James Graves** (814) 533-4504
208 Penn Traffic Bldg., 319 Washington St., Fax: (814) 533-4519
Johnstown, PA 15901

Chambers of Chief Judge Donetta W. Ambrose

U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, Suite 3280,
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1906
Tel: (412) 208-7350 Fax: (412) 208-7357
E-mail: Judge_Donetta_Ambrose@pawd.uscourts.gov

Donetta W. Ambrose
Chief Judge

Date of Birth: 1945
Education: Duquesne 1967 BA, 1970 JD
Began Service: 1994
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton
Political Affiliation: Democrat

Clerkships: Law Clerk The Honorable Louis L. Manderino, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania (1970); Law Clerk The Honorable Louis L. Manderino, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (1971-1972)

Government: Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1972-1974); Assistant District Attorney, Office of the District Attorney, County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania (1977-1981)

Judicial: Judge, Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas (1982-1993)

Legal Practice: Partner, Ambrose & Ambrose (1974-1981)

Current Memberships: Allegheny County Bar Association; American Bar Association; American Bar Foundation, American Bar Association; The American Inns of Court; American Judicature Society; National Association of Women Judges; Pennsylvania Bar Association; Commission on Women in the Profession, Pennsylvania Bar Association; Westmoreland Bar Association; Womens Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania

Staff

Career Law Clerk **Carolyn Allen** (412) 208-7355
E-mail: Carolyn_Allen@pawd.uscourts.gov
Education: Duquesne 1993 JD
Career Law Clerk **Sherry Halfhill** (412) 208-7354
E-mail: Sherry_Halfhill@pawd.uscourts.gov
Education: Temple 1993 JD
Career Law Clerk **Anne Salzman Kurzweg** (412) 208-7353
E-mail: anne_kurzweg@pawd.uscourts.gov
Education: Pittsburgh 1998 JD
Career Law Clerk **Susan Schupansky** (412) 208-7353
E-mail: susan_schupansky@pawd.uscourts.gov
Education: Pennsylvania 1998 JD
Courtroom Deputy Clerk **Jack Hamilton** (412) 208-7350

Chambers of District Judge Gary L. Lancaster

700 Grant Street, Courtroom 3A, Suite 3250, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Tel: (412) 208-7400 Fax: (412) 208-7407

Gary L. Lancaster
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1949
Education: Slippery Rock U 1971 BS; Pittsburgh 1974 JD
Began Service: December 17, 1993
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

Government: Regional Counsel, Human Relations Commission, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1974-1976); Assistant District Attorney, Office of the District Attorney, County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania (1976-1978)

Judicial: Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (1987-1993)

Legal Practice: Sole Practitioner (1978-1979); Partner, Cooper & Lancaster (1979-1981); Brown & Smith (1981-1987)

Current Memberships: Allegheny County Bar Association; The American Inns of Court; Horner S. Brown Law Association; National Bar Association

Staff

Law Clerk (Part-Time) **Padmaja Chivukula** (412) 208-7400
E-mail: padmaja_chivukula@pawd.uscourts.gov

Chambers of District Judge Gary L. Lancaster continued

Law Clerk **Melissa Gilmore-Szefti** (412) 208-7400
Education: Duquesne 1998 JD
Law Clerk **Jessica Haught** (412) 208-7402
Began Service: 2007
E-mail: jessica_haught@pawd.uscourts.gov
Law Clerk (Part-Time) **Teresa Elliot Nixon** (412) 208-7408
Education: Vanderbilt 1996 JD
Law Clerk **Beth Thomas** (412) 208-7402
Began Service: 2007
Education: Vanderbilt 2004 JD
Courtroom Deputy **Michael Palus** (412) 208-7400
E-mail: michael_palus@pawd.uscourts.gov
Judicial Assistant (**Vacant**) (412) 208-7401

Chambers of District Judge Sean J. McLaughlin

17 South Park Row, Room A 250, Erie, PA 16501
Tel: (814) 464-9610 Fax: (814) 464-9617

Sean J. McLaughlin
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1955
Education: Georgetown 1977 BA, 1980 JD
Began Service: October 13, 1994
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

Clerkships: Law Clerk The Honorable William W. Knox, United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (1980-1981)

Legal Practice: Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett (1981-1994)

Staff

Career Law Clerk **Jeffrey D. Grossett** (814) 464-9610
Education: Miami U (OH) 1999 BA;
Case Western 2002 JD
Career Law Clerk **Rebecca Humphrey** (814) 464-9610
Career Law Clerk **Kathleen Scibetta** (814) 464-9610
Education: Pennsylvania 1992 JD
Courtroom Deputy Clerk **Nicole Kierzek** (814) 464-9610

Chambers of District Judge Joy Flowers Conti

5250 U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, 700 Grant Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Tel: (412) 208-7330 Fax: (412) 208-7337

Joy Flowers Conti
District Judge

Date of Birth: December 7, 1948
Education: Duquesne 1970 BA, 1973 JD
Began Service: August 30, 2002
Appointed By: President George W. Bush



Academic: Professor of Law, School of Law, Duquesne University (1976-1982)

Clerkships: Law Clerk, Justice Louis L. Manderino, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (1973-1974)

Legal Practice: Associate, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP (1974-1976); Partner, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP (1983-1996); Shareholder, Buchanan Ingersoll PC (1996-2002)

Current Memberships: Allegheny County Bar Association; American Bankruptcy Institute; American Bar Association; American Bar Foundation, American Bar Association; The Pittsburgh American Inn of Court, The American Inns of Court; American Judicature Society; The American Law Institute; Federal Bar Association; National Association of Women Judges; Pennsylvania Bar Association; Pennsylvania Bar Foundation

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